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# NORAD

NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE

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OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

21 JUL 1988

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GENERAL LAURENCE SHERMAN KUTER, USAF

Laurence Sherman Kuter, 4-star USAF general, was named on May 6, 1959 to succeed General Earle E. Partridge as Commander-in-Chief of the North American Air Defense Command. The announcement was made by President Eisenhower after the Canadian government had concurred in this appointment.

It was the second time General Kuter had followed General Partridge in an assignment, the same succession having taken place in the summer of 1955 when General Kuter became Commander-in-Chief, Far East Air Forces.

Laurence Sherman Kuter was born in Rockford, Illinois, on 28 May 1905, and was graduated from the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York, on 14 June 1927.

Second Lieutenant Kuter was first assigned to Bty. D, 2nd Bn., 76th Field Artillery, Presidio of Monterey, California. He was formally assigned all Battery Officer duties except command. In May 1929 he was accepted for flying training, graduating from flying schools at Brooks Field and Kelly Field, Texas as a bombardment pilot in June 1930.

He was then assigned as Operations Officer, 49th Bombardment Squadron, 2nd Bombardment Group, Langley Field, Virginia. One month later Lt Kuter was transferred to the Air Corps. During his assignment at Langley, Lt Kuter placed second in the Annual Bombing Competition of the Army Air Corps. Since the Air Corps was leading the world in the development of bombing techniques, this had the effect of proving him the number two bombardier in the world.

In August 1933 Lt Kuter moved up as Operations Officer, 2nd Bombardment Wing, and Asst Base Operations Officer at Langley. During this period he flew alternate wing position with Capt Clair L. Chennault's acrobatic group, "The Flying Trapeze." This was the first recognized aerial acrobatic team in the military service.

He was then given a leading role in the operational development of the B-9 Boeing twin engine bombers which pioneered high altitude bombing techniques and tactics in the U.S. Air Force.

From February to June 1934, Lieutenant Kuter served as Operations Officer of the Eastern Zone Army Corps Mail operations. He was the last officer relieved from this duty being held over to write the final report and history. At

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the conclusion of this assignment he was selected for the Air Corps Tactical School, Maxwell Field, Alabama. He was graduated at the top of his class in the Spring of 1935 and was retained at the school as instructor in Bombardment Aviation and in The Employment of Air Power.

At this time the school was beginning to develop the role of strategic bombing in future warfare. Prior to this, planning had been directed to defensive and supporting roles. The 10,000-plane Air Force envisioned in Captain Kuter's lectures taxed imaginations at that time.

The ideas born and developed at the school were to play an important part in his next assignment in the Operations and Training Division, War Department General Staff, Washington, D. C., where he was ordered to duty on 1 July 1939. General George C. Marshall, who became The Chief of the War Department General Staff on that day had called for the experimental assignment to the general staff of aviators, young and junior officers and officers who had not attended the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Captain Kuter's assignment represented all three phases of this experiment.

Early in 1941 he was a principal factor in several augmentations of the Air Corps and was one of the four principal authors of the basic plan for employment of Air Power in World War II. This plan was used almost without change. It has been said that there is no other case in military history where a detailed overall plan had been drawn up and adhered to so closely through the organizing, fraining, fighting and winning of any great war.

In November 1941, Major Kuter was designated Asst Secretary, War Department General Staff. After participating as one of a committee of three in the reorganization of the War Department, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on January 5 and to Brigadier General on 2 February 1942, and transferred in March to Headquarters Army Air Forces as the Deputy Chief of Air Staff.

At this time there was extensive public interest expressed in the sudden promotion to temporary Brigadier General of an officer who had been a temporary Lieutenant Colonel for less than 30 days. General Kuter has never served in the active rank of full Colonel. His was the first "jump" promotion of an officer as young as 36 since William T. Sherman. The next youngest general officer at that time was 46.

General Kuter was assigned overseas in October 1942 in command of the First Bombardment Wing (later First Bombardment Division), Eighth Air Force, Brampton Grange, England. When General Kuter assumed command he found four understrength groups of B-17's (Flying Fortresses) operating separately. He succeeded in welding the individual squadrons and groups into a coordinated fighting force. This was done on the assumption that the largest practicable combat unit over the target at one time would provide more mutual fire support, saving lives and planes, and improve the probability of destroying the objective without having to repeat.

Then in January 1943 General Kuter was transferred to North Africa to command the allied tactical air forces. In February the Royal Air Forces Western Desert Air Force reached Tunisia and was merged with the Allied Support Command from North Africa. General Kuter became the American Deputy Commander in the newly consolidated Northwestern African Tactical Air Force. During this campaign in Tunisia, new tactical air concepts were generated and Air Corps regulations revised accordingly. The basic changes reflected in them are still the principle doctrinal basis for the present tactical air power concept of the U.S. Air Force.

During the Tunisian campaign, General Henry H. Arnold, Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Directed that General Kuter be released from the Mediterranean Theater and returned to Washington effective the day General Rommel surrendered. So in May 1943 General Kuter returned to Headquarters Army Air Forces to become Assistant Chief of Air Staff for Plans and Combat Operations.

During this period, plans for the overall air war offensive for the defeat of Japan reached the stage where it became practicable to organize the United States Army Strategic Air Force in the Pacific. This headquarters was set up in the Pentagon under General Arnold's personal and direct command. General Kuter served as General Arnold's Chief of Staff and Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans, in connection with the 20th Air Force, and, as it moved into the Pacific Ocean Area, the 8th Air Force. These units later formed the U.S. Army Strategic Air Force, Pacific.

In February 1944, General Kuter was promoted to Major General. Previous to this, in August 1943 and extending through February 1945, he participated in the series of Combined Chief of Staff Conferences at Quebec, Cairo and London. When General Arnold became suddenly and seriously ill, General Kuter was designated as his representative to attend the Yalta and Malta Conferences. His experiences in these two conferences are told in detail in his book, "An Airman at Yalta," Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1955.

General Kuter went to the Marianas Islands in May 1945

(MORE)

to become Deputy Commander of Army Air Forces, Pacific Ocean Area, and to help operate the United States Army Strategic Air Forces in the Pacific.

At the conclusion of the war in the Pacific, General Kuter was directed to return to Headquarters USAF through Europe. In Paris he was intercepted by an order redirecting him back through the Philippines, Guam and Okinawa to assume command of the air lift forces as General Arnold's and General H.L. George's personal representative in arranging the airlift of General MacArthur and Army forces into Japan. He then returned to the states.

During the next year General Kuter consolidated three Air Transport Command divisions into the Atlantic Division, ATC, and served as its commander. While in this position, he represented the Air Force of the US-UK Bilateral Air Conference in Bermuda, and participated in negotiating an agreement with Portugal for USAF use of Lajes Air Field in the Azores.

In September 1946, by Presidential Order, the General was appointed U.S. Representative to the Interim Council of the Provisional International Aviation Organization in Montreal, Canada. A year later he was reappointed by Presidential Order as the U.S. Representative to the then permanent International Civil Aviation Organization. In his appointment he had the personal rank of minister. During this period of the birth of international agreements in aviation, General Kuter participated in major civil aviation conferences in London, Cairo, Lima and Rio de Janeiro.

This experience led President Truman to nominate General Kuter for the chairmanship of the Civil Aeronautics Board. At this time several military figures had recently been appointed to high civilian positions and General Eisenhower was emerging as a possible political figure, Republican or Democrat. The Senate Committee refused to confirm the nomination of another military man to such position, and indicated that it would be necessary for General Kuter to resign from the service before accepting the position. General Kuter preferred not to resign from the Air Force and asked that his nomination be withdrawn.

Within a month he was named Commander designate of the proposed Military Air Transport Service (MATS) in February 1948. This was the first integrated military service. He was primarily responsible for its charter and organization. When MATS was activated four months later

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General Kuter became its first commander. MATS proved its organizational soundness and its operational capability in its first six months of operations when its global resources were directed into the operation of the Berlin airlift.

Two years later the same global resources of MATS were operating across the Pacific Ocean in support of fighting in Korea. At the same time General Kuter's command brought air evacuation of troops into extensive and effective operation.

He was promoted to Lieutenant General in April 1951 and in October of that year was designated Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, Headquarters USAF. In this position General Kuter initiated actions in the Air Force and in cooperation with the personnel chiefs of the other services which culminated four years later in extensive legislation raising pay and otherwise increasing the desirability of a military service career. He held this position until April 1953 when he assumed command of the Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

As Commander, Air University, General Kuter raised the status of the Air Command and Staff School to college level, the Squadron Officer's Course to school level, and brought the Air University closer to its original concept as a university with a university staff and faculty to handle all levels of professional military education in the U.S. Air Force. This concept has been adopted by the Air Forces of several foreign countries.

Lieutehant General Kuter was promoted to full general while in flight at 0001 on 21 May 1955, while enroute to Tokyo to assume command of the Far East Air Forces (FEAF).

In this new command, General Kuter immediately found the mobility of air power impeded by the existence of two major commands in the Pacific. His air units were splot between the Far East Command with headquarters in Tokyo and the Pacific Command in Hawaii. He could not move air units from one of these commands to the other without permission of two theater commanders or the Joint Chiefs in Washington. Rapid movement to meet potential air threats is a basic essential of the jet age and General Kuter's long-term recommendations and objections to the divided command system were registered in a formal recommendation to the Chief of Staff, USAF. This study was then used as the USAF position before the Joint Chiefs of Staff and led to the consolidation of the two commands and establishment of the present Pacific Command.

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When Far East Air Forces was disestablished in this consolidation of command, General Kuter became Commander-in-Chief of the newly created Pacific Air Forces on 1 July 1957. Pacific Air Forces is the air arm of Pacific Command. Its headquarters is at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii.

General Kuter is a rated command pilot, combat observer, technical observer and aircraft observer. He has logged more than 8,000 flying hours, including 3,200 hours as a command pilot. Before 1952 he had flown around the world seven times visiting Air Force installations.

General Kuter is married to the former Ethel Lyddon of Rockford, Illinois, and has one daughter, Roxanne, whose husband is Robert B. Williamson (Ph.D), economist with the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Texas. He has three grand-children: Laurence Kuter Williamson, Robin Beth, and Donald.

General Kuter's awards and decorations include:
Distinguished Service Medal, with Oak Leaf Cluster; Legion of Merit; Bronze Star Medal; Commendation Ribbon; American Defense Service Medal; Europe-Africa-Middle East Campaign Medal; American Defense Service Medal; American Campaign Service Medal; World War II Victory Medal; Commander, Order of the British Empire; Legion of Honor (French); Croix de Guerre with Palm (French); Order of Christ, Knight Grand Commander (Portugese); Order of the Cloud and Banner with Grande Cordon (Republic of China); Military Order of Merit, Taequk, with Gold Star (Republic of Korea); Order of the Rising Sun, 2nd Class (Japanese); Legion of Honor (Philippines); Order of the Crown, Knight Grand Commander (Thailand); Doctor of Military Science, Honorary - University of Maryland.

\*\* End \*\*

Up to date as of 31 July 1959

OFFICIAL TITLE

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Swowing of the to. Headquarters, Air University Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 14 May 1955 MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALA .-- In an impressive military departure ceremony at Maxwell Air Force Base today (Saturday), Lt. Gen. Laurence S. Kuter bade farewell to the Air University and Montgomery. Commander of the Air University since April 1953, General Kuter now goes to Tokyo to command the Far East Air Forces. He will receive the fourth star of a full general May 29 At Maxwell this morning, General Kuter officially turned his command over to Major General Dean C. Strother who has been designated by Washington as acting commander of the Air University. With General Strother, he "trooped the line" before formations of airmen and officers with whom he has been associated for the past two years. Following this gesture of farewell, troop formations passed in review in General Kuter's honor. Music for the ceremony furnished by Maxwell's band included The General's March, Auld Lang Syne, and Dixie. Following the review, General Kuter walked to his care between two files of an Air University honor flight. Before stepping into his car, he turned and saluted General Strother and his staff as a parting gesture.

Attending the ceremony and a reception by General and Mrs. Strother which followed were many prominent guests from Montgomery. Among those present were Governor and Mrs. James E. Folsom, Lt. Governor and Mrs. Guy Hardwick, Mayor and Mrs. W. A. Gayle, Chamber of Commerce President and Mrs. James G. Pruett, County Revenue Board Chairman and Mrs. L. R. Grimes, Chief Justice Ed. J. Livingston, Huntingdon College President and Mrs. Hubert Searcy, Armed Services Committee Chairman and Mrs. W. C. Bowman, Major General and Mrs. W. D. Partlow, Jr., and Mr. R. F. Hudson, Sr.

Also attending were Major General Ralph P. Swofford, Jr., commandant, USAF Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, and Brig. Gen. Edward J. Kendricks, commandant, USAF School of Aviation Medicine, Randolph Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

General and Mrs. Kuter are motoring to the West Coast.

They will then fly to Tokyo with a short stop at Hickam Air Force
Base in Honolulu.

# HEADQUARTERS AIR UNIVERSITY MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA LIEUTENANT GENERAL LAURENCE S. KUTER, USAF Laurence S. Kuter was born in Rockford, Illinois on May 28, 1905 and graduated from the United States Military Academy on June 14, 1927. General Kuter was first assigned to the Field Artillery. He graduated from Flying Schools at Brooks and Kelly Fields, Texas, in June, 1930, and was assigned to Langley Field, Virginia, as Operations Officer of the 49th Bombardment Squadron. A month later, General Kuter was transferred to the Air Corps. He became Operations Officer, 2nd Bombardment Wing and Assistant Base Operations Officer at Langley Field in August, 1933.

From February to June, 1934, General Kuter served as Operations Officer of the Eastern Zone Army Air Corps Mail Operations. He was then enrolled in the Air Corps Tactical School at Maxwell Field, Alabama, was graduated in the Spring of 1935 and remained as an instructor in Bombardment Aviation and in The Employment of Air Forces, at that school.

In July 1939, he began a tour of duty in the Operations and Training Division of the War Department General Staff, Washington, D. C. On this assignment General Kuter was a principal factor in the several augmentations of the Air Corps and an author of the basic plan for the employment of air power in World War II. In November, 1941, he was designated as Assistant Secretary, War Department General Staff. After participating in the reorganization of the War Department, he was transferred to Headquarters, Army Air Forces, and was designated the Deputy Chief of Air Staff in March, 1942.

He was assigned to overseas duty in October, 1942, and was in command of the 1st Bombardment Wing (later designated 1st Bombardment Division) in England at the end of 1942. At the beginning of 1943, he was called to North Africa, and in April, 1943, became the American Deputy Commander, Northwestern African Tactical Air Force, where he remained until the victory in Tunisia.

In May, 1943, General Kuter returned to Headquarters, Army Air Forces and was designated Assistant Chief of Air Staff for Plans where he was General H. H. Arnold's staff assistant in the field of air war plans and combat operations. From August, 1943, to February, 1945, General Kuter participated in the series of Combined Chiefs of Staff Conferences at Quebec, Cairo, and London, and was General Arnold's personal representative at the conferences at Malta and Yalta.

In May, 1945, he went to the Marianas in the Pacific to become Deputy Commander of Army Air Forces, Pacific Ocean Area, and to help organize the United States Army Strategic Air Forces in the Pacific.

In September, 1945, General Kuter returned to the United States to consolidate and put on a peacetime basis several of ATC's larger war-time commands in the North and South Atlantic, the Caribbean and in South America. He was placed in command of the resultant consolidation, the new Atlantic Division of the Air Transport Command. While in this position, General Kuter served as War Department representative and military advisor to the American Delegation at the United States - United Kingdom Civil Aviation Conference at Bermuda. He also participated in conferences with the government of Portugal concerning United States air bases in the Azores.

In September, 1946, by Presidential Order, he was appointed United States Representative to the Interim Council of the Provisional International Aviation Organization which had its head-quarters at Montreal. On September 22, 1947, he was reappointed by Presidential Order as the United States Representative to the Council of the then permanent International Civil Aviation Organization, with the personal rank of Minister. During this period General Kuter participated in major civil aviation conferences in London, Cairo, Lima, and Rio de Janiero.

Named Commander designate of the proposed Military Air Transport Service in March, 1948, General Kuter was primarily responsible for its charter and organization and then assumed command of MATS upon its activation four months later.

He was designated Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel at Air Force Headquarters on October 29, 1951 \*\*D\*\* General Kutor\* assumed command of the Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, in April, 1953.

AIR forces out of General Kuter Assumed command of the far east his decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal with on the Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, French Legion Date of Honor (Chevalier), Order of the British Empire (Companion) and the Order of Christ of Portugal (Knight Grand Officer). He is rated a command pilot, combat observer, technical observer, and aircraft observer.

#### PROMOTIONS

He was promoted to first lieutenant (permanent) January 25, 1933; to captain (permanent) June 14, 1937; to major (temporary) December 30, 1940; to lieutenant colonel (temporary) January 5, 1942; to brigadier general (temporary) February 2, 1942; to major general (temporary) February 20, 1944; to brigadier general (permanent) April 11, 1948; to major general (permanent) January 27, 1950; to lieutenant general (temporary) April 11, 1951; to GENERAL (TEMP) JUNE 1, 1951.

Up to date as of January 1955

#### SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

#### Departure Ceremony in Honor of: Lt Gen Laurence S. Kuter, USAF 89A

LOCATION: Namp Area, Hangare 4 and 5, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala

DATE: 14 May 55

### Approx time of each event:

of each event:						
0645		Formation of Troops.				
0659		Reviewing Party and Air University officers in place.				
0700		Adjutant's Call.				
0702		Base Commander arrives and assumes his position on Reviewing Stand.				
0706		Generals Kuter and Strother arrive and assume their positions on				
		Reviewing Stand. The band ten plays three (3) ruffles and				
		flourishes followed by the Generals! March. (Reviewing Party at				
		ATTENTION just prior to arrival of Generals Kuter and Strother.)				
0707		After the troops have been brought to Parade Rest following ruffles				
(4)		and flourishes, Generals Kuter and Strother will Troop the Line.				
		(Reviewing Party at PARADE REST during trooping of line.)				
0713	}	After Generals Kuter and Strother have returned to the Reviewing				
		Stand, the Adjutant, Air University will publish the orders.				
0714		After the orders have been published, Generals Kuter and Strother				
		will face one another; General Strother will salute and state:				
		"I relieve you, sir." General Kuter will return the salute and				
		they will exchange positions on the Reviewing Stand.				
0715		Troop Commander presents the Command.				
0716	5	Pass in Review.				
0726	5	Departure Ceremony.				
		CONTRACTOR TO THE CONTRACT OF THE SECOND CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACT OF THE CON				

NOTE: After the last squadron has PASSED IN REVIEW, the Troop
Commander will step forward, face General Strother, and salute.

This indicates the termination of the Review. Generals Kuter
and Strother will then leave the Reviewing Stand and complete the
Departure Ceremony.

#### SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Departure Ceremony
In Honor of:
Lieutenant General Laurence Kuter, USAF

(Alternate Plan)

DATE: 11 May 1955

LOCATION: Hangar 8, Haxwell AFB, Alabama

TIME: 0650 Formation of Band, Honor Guard and Honor Flight.

0700 Guests will be seated and AU Staff and other AU Officers.
will assume their designated positions.

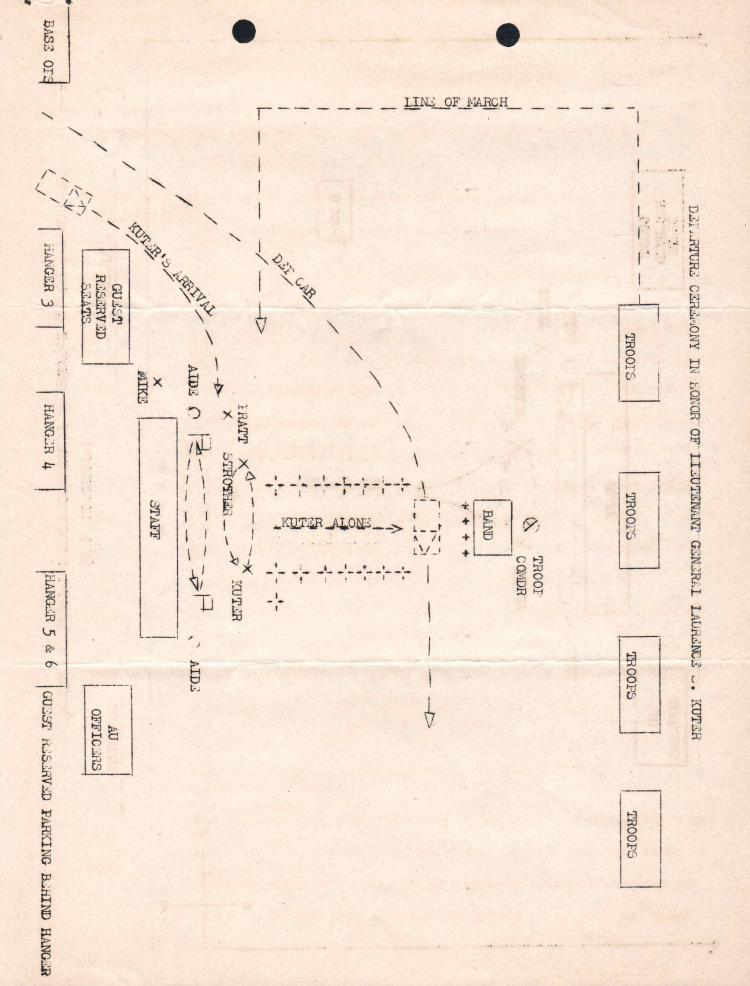
0704 Generals Kuter and Strother arrive and assume their designated positions.

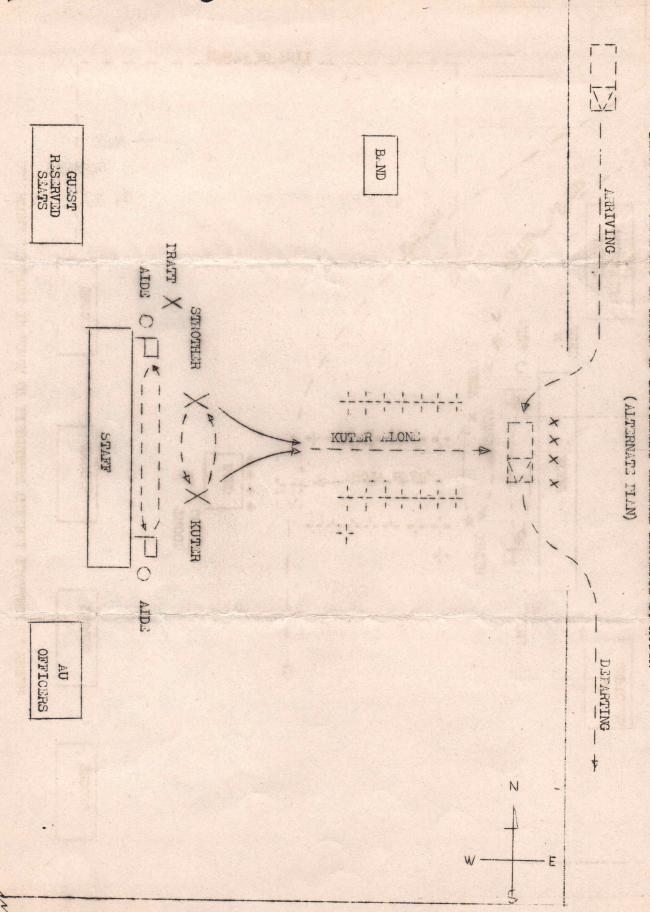
NOTE: After the Generals have assumed their position in front of the Staff, the band will play three ruffles and flourishes followed by the Generals! March.

0706 Adjutant, AU, will publish the orders.

0707 Assumption of Command Ceremony.

0708 Honor Flight presents arms and General Kuter departs by automobile.





DETARTURE CEREMONY IN MONOR OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL LAURENCE S. KUTER

## JOINT MESSAGEFORM

	SPACE ABOVE FOR CO	MMUNICATIONS CENT	PR ONLY						
FRUM:	(Originator)		DATE-TIME GROUP	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION					
	MAFB, ALA.		PRECEDENCE ACTION FOR:	INFORMATION					
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MIFO:	Dir., RSI, MAPB, Ala. (Hand carry) Dir., AU Library, MAFB, Ala. (Hand carry) Comdt., ECI, Gunter AFB, Ala. (Hand carry) Comdr., 3800th AB Wg., MAFB, (Hand carry) Comdr., 3894th Sch Gp. MAFB, (Hand carry) Comdt., Gunter Br. USAFSAM, GAFB, (Hand carry) Comdr., Gunter AFB, Ala. (Hand carry)								
	AUIS-6 PERSONAL KU	TER TO: SPIN	VEY, SWOPFORD, DEICH	ELMANN. KENDRICKS					
			, PRATT, JOHNSTONE,						
	THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCED TODAY ( APRIL) THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS SENT TO THE SENATE MY NOMINATION TO SUCCEED GEN. EARLE E.								
			T AIR FORCES. THE						
			NOT BEEN DETERMINED						
	SUCCESSOR BEEN SELECTED. FOLLOWING MY DEPARTURE, MAJ. GEN. DEAN								
			MMANDER. I WISH TO						
	UNIVERSITY COMMANDANTS, DIRECTORS AND INSTALLATIONS COMMANDERS								
	PRESENT AT MAXWELL ABOUT MIDDLE OF MAY TO PARTICIPATE IN A FORMAL DEPARTURE CEREMONY ON THE LINE. ACTUAL DATE AND SCHEDULE FOR THE								
CEREMONY WILL BE FURNISHED ADDRESSEES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.									
			SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	PAGE OF PAGES					
DRAFTER'S	NAME (and signature, when required)		RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE						
	LAURENCE H. MACAULE	Y							
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.. - ( DRAFT

Personal Kuter to Maj. Gen. Delmar T. Spivey, Condique

Maj. Gen. Ralph F. Swofford, J.

Maj. Gen. M. K. Deichelmann,

Brig. Gen. E. J. Kendricks,

Brig. Gen. Lloyd P. Hopwood,

Brig. Gen. Clinton W. Davies,

Dr. Jerrold Orne,

Col. Merrill A. Kempton,

Col. James G. Pratt,

Col. Charles W. Johnstone,

Col. Fratis L. Duff,

Lt. Col. Edwin C. Larson,

The Whitehouse It was announced officially today (19 April) that The President my homination has sent have been nominated to the senate by the president to succeed Gen. Earle E. Partridge as Commander, Far East Air Forces. The date of my departure from Maxwell AFB has not been determined, nor has my successor been named. Following my departure, Maj. Gen. Dean C. Strother will serve as AU commander, until such time as a new commander is announced. I wish to have would like all Air University commandants, directors and about middle of May installation commanders to be present at Maxwell, to participate in a formal departure ceremony on the line. Actual date and schedule for the ceremony will be furnished addressees as soon as possible.

Address Official Communications to Commanding General
Air University
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALA.



In reply refer to

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS AIR UNIVERSITY MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE ALABAMA

16 May 1955

MEMORANDUM TO: CHIEF

OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES AIR UNIVERSITY

- 1. All activities incident to the departure of General Kuter, including the protocol, the reception and the formal dinner on May 13th, and the Change of Command ceremony on Saturday morning, were performed in a highly efficient manner.
- 2. I appreciate the effort and the cooperation of all concerned in making these ceremonies commensurate with the high traditions of the United States Air Force.

D. C. STROTHER

Major General, USAF

Acting Commander

Seen by Copt Papin & Johnson

Know Your Air Force Leaders - Lt. Gen. Laurence S. Kuter 56

Lt. Gen. Laurence S. Kuter, Commander of the Air University with head-quarters at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., heads the United States Air Force professional educational system that serves more than 200,000 Air Force students throughout the world.

He looks upon education as a primary aid in developing/comprehension, judgment and vision essential to a successful profession of arms.

General Kuter is a graduate of the United States Military Academy, Air Corps Flying Schools and the forerunner of Air Force schools that he now commands.

On duty in the Operations and Training Division of the War Department General Staff in 1939-41, he was a principal figure in the several augmentations of the Air Corps and an author of the basic plan for the employment of air power in World War II. He commanded the initial B-17 Wing in England in 1942, and in 1943 became the American Deputy Commander, Northwest Africa Tactical Air Force until the victory in Tunisia. He was recalled to be Assistant Chief of the Air Staff for Plans as General H. H. Arnold's staff assistant for air war plans and combat operations. In May, 1945, he went to Guam to become Deputy Commander of the Army Air Forces, Pacific Ocean Area, and to help organize the United States Army Strategic Air Forces in the Pacific.

Post-war assignments included peacetime consolidation and command of several of Air Transport Command's larger vartime operations across the Atlantic and in North and South America. United States representative to the Council of International Civil Aviation Organization, with the personal rank of Minister, and he was primarily responsible for the charter and the organization of the Military Air Transport Service and was aits first commander. He was designated Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel at Air Force Headquarters in ctober, 1951, and assumed command of the Air University in April, 1953.

General Kuter's/assignments have called for an extraordinary amount of long range flying. His wartime assignments and global responsibilities while commanding MATS have taken him seven times on trips around-the-world.

or the

END

commander FEAF

#### LT. GENERAL LAURENCE S. KUTER

General Kuter has a tackground of 26 years of distinguished xxxxixixxx 6 military service. He was born at Rockford, Ill., May 28, 1905.

He was graduated from the U.S. Military Academy, appointed a second lieutenant of Field Artillery June 14, 1927, and assigned with the Presido of Monterey, Calif.

General Kuter was detailed to the Air Corps in July, 1929, and assigned to the Air Corps Primary Flying School at Brooks Field, Texas, from which he was graduated in February, 1930. He completed the course at the Air Corps Advanced Flying School at Kelly Field, Texas, in June 1930, and was assigned to Langley Field, Va., as operations officer of the month later, he was transferred to the Air Corps. He became operations officer of the Second Bombardment Wing, and assistant post officer at that base in August, 1933.

Between February and June, 1934, General Kuter was with the Eastern Zone's Army air mail operations at Washington, D.C.; Newark, N.J.; Floyd Bennett Field, New York, and Mitchell Field, New York. He then was transferred to Maxwell Field, Ala., where he enrolled in the Air Corps Tactical School. After graduation in the Spring of 1935, he remained as an instructor of bombardment, aviation, and the employment of air forces. In July, 1939, he began a tour in the Operations and Training Dicision of the War Department General Staff.

In November, 1941, General Kuter was disignated Assistant Secretary of the War Department General Staff, and after participation in the re-

organization of the War Department, was transferred to kkm Air Force
Headquarters as Deputy Chief of Air Staff. He was assigned to an overseas station in October, 1942, and in April, 1943, became deputy commander
of the Northwest African Tactical Air Force, in which capacity he served
during the Tunisian campaign.

General Kuter, in May, 1943, was designated Assistant Chief of Air Staff for Plans, in which capacity he participated in the Joint Chiefs of Staff organization and in the meetings of the Combined Chiefs of Staff at Quetec, Cairo, London, Malta and Yalta. In May, 1945, he went to the Marianas to become commander of the Air Forces in the Pacific Ocean area and to organize the U.S. Army Strategic Air Forces in the Pacific.

The following September he returned to the United States to consolidate and put on a peacetime basis several of Air Transport Command's larger wartime divisions in the North and South Atlantic, the Caribbean and in South America. He was placed in command of the resultant consolidation, the new Atlantic Division of ATC.

In August, 1946, General Kuter was assigned to ATC Headquarters, and the following month was appointed, by Presidential order, United States representative to the Interim Council of the Provisional International Aviation Organization. On September 22, 1947, he was reappointed United States representative to the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization, with the personal rank of Minister.

He participated in the North Ocean Weather Ship Conference in London in September, 1946, which agreed to establish a chain of 13 ocean weather ships to provide aerological data \*\*\* along the i portant North Altantic air routes and to assist in rescue operations and serve as aids to air

navigantion.

In October, 1946, he was a member of the U.S. elegation to the Middle East Regional Air Navigational Meeting at Cairo. This conference established standards and procedures in aids to air navigation in that region. He also represented the United States in June, 1947, at similar meetings in Lima, Peru, for the South American Region and at Rio de Janeiro in July for the South Atlantic Region.

In March, 1946, General Kuter was assigned as commander designate of the proposed Military Air Transport Service, a consolidation of Air Transport Command and Naval Air Transport Service, and was appointed commander of MATS when it was activated four months later.

On October 29, 1951, General Kuter was named Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel of the Air Force.

Hq Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala

Unclassified

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TWX

General Hoyt S. Vandenberg Chief of Staff, USAF Washington DC

AUCG-3. Official announcement that your Vice Chief will succeed you is received in this command with mixed regret as to your own reassignment to the role of Chief of Staff Emeritus and gratification as to your forthcoming rest which your five years of great achievement have so abundantly justified.

You may be assured of this command's sustained loyalty to you.

On the day you turn over control to General Twining you may be
equally assured that our wholehearted loyalty will be transferred
without break to the new chief.

For all time you will continue to hold the highest regard and the deepest respect of the officers and airmen of the Air University.

> LAURENCE S. KUTER Commanding

Unclassified

1 1

Hq Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala

TWX Unclassified

Lt. Gen. Thomas D. White Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations Hq USAF Washington, DC

AUCG-5. Official announcement of your nomination for promotion to Vice Chief has been received throughout this command with great encouragement.

The unqualified support of all echelons of the Air University is guaranteed.

Every officer and airman who has had the opportunity to work for you or close to you previously joins me in personal pleasure at the announcement and in individual assurance of enthusiastic loyalty.

> LAURENCE S. KUTER Commanding

Hq Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala

Unclassified

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TWX

General Nathan F. Twining Vice Chief of Staff, USAF Washington, DC

AUCG-4. Official announcement of your nomination for promotion from Vice Chief to Chief of Staff received throughout this command with spontaneous gratification.

When you take over as the new Chief you are assured of the instant and wholehearted loyalty of all officers and airmen of the Air University.

We feel that our country and our air force should receive the congratulations and we send to you our appreciation to you for accepting new burdens of greater responsibility.

You have our support and most sincere best wishes.

LAURENCE S. KUTER Commanding

Unclassified

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MEMO ROUTING SLIP  NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS								
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4			SEE ME					
		. 7	SIGNATURE					

REMARKS

We are sending a letter quoting this message to AU commanders.

FROM NAME OR TITLE

KENNETH K GOLLEDGE ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION Colonel,

Deputy C/S Personnel

10 May 55

TELEPHONE

DD 1 FORM 95 Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

ST GPO : 1951 - O 925564

FROM: HQ USAF WASH DC

Dtd 10 May 55 M/C Nr 2916

TO:

\* \* \* \*

COMAIRU MAXWELL AFB ALA

\* \* \* \*

(Major Commands)

FROM AFPDC-G 49769

The President, this date, approved the following general officers for appointment to the grades indicated in the United States Air Force: Gen Earle E Partridge, 33A, to be CINC, Continental Air Def Comd and Comdr, ADC, w/rank of Gen, eff 1 Jun 55.

Lt Gen Laurence S Kuter, 89A, to be Comdr, FEAF, eff 1 Jun 55 w/rank of Gen from 29 May 55.

Maj Gen Patrick W Timberlake, 83A, to be Comdr, AAFSE, w/rank of Lt Gen, eff this date.

Maj Gen Clarence S Irvine, 296A, to be Deputy Chief of Staff, Materiel, USAF, w/rank of Lt Gen, eff this date.

C O P Y

AIRCRAFT INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA INC. WASHINGTON 5, D. C. 610 SHOREHAM BUILDING 11 May 1955 Laurence H. Macauley Colonel, USAF Chief, Information Services Air University Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama Dear Mac: Delighted you enjoyed the little festivities we organized for the departure of L.S.K. although I am afraid we really didn't fire water at our usual high level. Perhaps this was all for the best. I hope you are enjoying your new assignment and that you will get frequent opportunities to come to Washington so that we may all get better acquainted. Best regards. Sincerely yours, Burton E. English Assistant Director Public Relations BEE/amd

9 May 1955 Mr. Burton E. English Assistant Director for Public Relations Aircraft Industries Assn. 610 Shoreham Bldg. Washington 5, D. C. Dear Burt: I'd like to express my appreciation for the fine time we all had at the recent convocation of the Tuesday Musical. It was my baptism of fire (water) and I liked it. I'm sure that I am only echoing the sentiments of General Kuter and the other stalwarts of the Brown Jug and Banjo Chapel. I'm only sorry that I couldn't stick around Washington longer to get to know you better and renew more old acquaintances. However, there will be other opportunities and I'll look you up. Thanks again for a first-class party and a wonderful send-off for a very fine guy. Sincerely, LAURENCE H. MACAULEY Colonel, USAF Chief, Information Services





1143 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING . WASHINGTON 4, D. C. . STERLING 3-1944

May 11, 1955

Dear Larry,

I enjoyed very much meeting you at the Kuter reception last week and meant it when I said if you ever get anything which you think will make good copy for AERO DIGEST please shoot it along.

Look me up the next time you are in town.

Regards,

FRED HAMLIN

Editor and Publisher

FH/jfm

Col. Laurence H. Macauley Headquarters, Air University Maxwell Air Force Base Alabama XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 018

Commander

27 Jan 55

Speakers at the Chamber dinner will meet in Room 202, second floor, Whitley Hotel, at 6:40 P.M. tonight.

James M. Fohmar, a chamber vice president, will introduce General Kuter, but presentation of the AU plaque will be made to C. T. Fitzpatrick who will respond. The prepared script for this part of the program is attached.

The plaque has been delivered to the chamber, and will be handy at the speakers' rostrum. Næktwikxikxkæ Mention of the new president, Jimmy Pruett, is made in the last paragraph of General Kuter's script.

WILLIAM B. ABBOTT, JR. Lt Colonel, USAF

James M. Folmar. Our next guest is a gentleman whom we all admire and respect not only because of the high position which he holds in our community and the nation but also because of his warm friendliness and genuine interest in Montgomery. He has just asked for the privilege of the floor and I am glad to recognize him at this time ..... It. General Laurence S. Kuter, Commander of the Air University. Thank you, Jimmy. General Kuter. If I may be permitted a slight deviation

from your printed program, I have a brief but a very pleasant duty to perform -

As you know, Maxwell Air Force Base has been an important part of your community for more than thirty years, and the Air University - the educational system of the Air Force - is nearly nine years old.

Young in years as time is usually measured here, we feel solidly mature in our close ties and warm friendships with the community.

In short, we claim the privilege and honor of being a REAL part of Montgomery.

And through all these years, the Chamber of Commerce of Montgomery has been a good right arm of the Air Force, the Air University, Maxwell and Gunter Air Force Bases, and all the Air Force personnel fortunate enought to be stationed here.



### DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF UNITED STATES AIR FORCE WASHINGTON, D. C.

24 May 1955

Dear Mac:

It was really a surprise to find that you are at the Air University enjoying life, the golf course, Florence, academic freedom, your job and perhaps I should add God and country, but who knows.

I am kind of curious about one thing. Did you by chance have the great fortune of visiting Okinawa in route to Korea or on your way back. I feel certain that this is an opportunity that you would not want to miss.

On the serious side, Larry, I have shown General Kuter's letter to the Boss, so I believe this covers you as far as the Chief is concerned.

Drop in and see me when you get this way and I will do likewise.

Sincerely,

Colonel, USAF

Executive to C/S, USAF

Colonel Laurence H. Macauley Chief, Information Services Air University Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

12 May 1955 Colonel James C. Sherrill Executive Office of the Chief of Staff Headquarters, U. S. Air Force Washington 25, D. C. Dear Jimmy: Inclosed is a copy of a letter from General Kuter informing the Secretary of the status of his forthcoming book "Airmen at Yalta." He asked me to send this copy to your office so you would know what was going on. As you can see, I am back from Korea and have a new job. Florence and I are very happy here at Maxwell. I like my job and she likes the golf course. I should be in Washington in the not too distant future and I will look you up. Perhaps we will have an opportunity to rehash some of our previous enjoyable escapades. Sincerely, LAURENCE H. MACAULEY Colonel, USAF Chief, Information Services

SUBJECT: Letter to Secretary Talbott

TO:

Office of Information Services Headquarters, U. S. Air Force ATTN: Magazines & Books Branch Washington 25, D. C.

Inclosed is a copy of a letter from General Kuter informing the Secretary of the status of his forthcoming book "Airmen at Yalta."

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Incl:

LAURENCE H. MACAULEY Colonel, USAF Chief, Information Services

cc

Col. Jas. C. Sherrill Exec to C/S Hq USAF

12 May 1955 Honorable Harold E. Talbott Secretary of the Air Force Washington 25, D. C. Dear Mr. Secretary: In view of recent instructions from the Department of Defense concerning writing for publication by military personnel, I feel that I should remind your office that I have a book now pending publication. The manuscript was sold last year to publishers Duell, Sloan and Pearce, New York, after proper clearance through the Air Force and Department of Defense. My book, "Airmen at Yalta," is a detailed, diary-type report of events which transpired at Yalta and in preparation for that conference. The manuscript to the best of my knowledge contains no information, other than my own observations, that would not now be available to any researcher. Although I have not seen the new Air Force regulations which are being prepared to govern writing for publication, I thought it best to inform your office of the status of my literary efforts in the event any questions arise in the future. Sincerely, cc: cal Sherrice LAURENCE S. KUTER Lieutenant General, USAF Commander

Although I have not seen instructions from Air

Force on writing for publication, I thought it best to

inform you of the status of my literary efforts in the

event any questions arise in the future.

Sincerely,

01

LAURENCE S. KUTER Lieutenant General, USAF Commander

(To be dispatched to Mr. Talbott through OIS, Hq USAF)

Address Official Communications to COMMANDER AIR UNIVERSITY MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALA.



In reply refer to

### UNITED STATES AIR FORCE **HEADQUARTERS** AIR UNIVERSITY MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE ALABAMA

26 April 1955

MEMORANDUM TO: COLONEL MACAULEY CHIEF, OIS

- 1. It is my understanding that the Secretary of Defense has published new instructions concerning writing for publication by military personnel and that the Air Force is preparing implementing regulations or instructions.
- 2. I sold a manuscript to Duell, Sloan and Pearce and expect to appear as the author of a small book later this year.
- 3. Please be alert to the receipt of new Air Force instructions. On their receipt I intend to report to the Secretary, through OIS, the circumstances of Air Force and Department of Defense clearance, and the sale of my manuscript to a publisher. Even though the new regulation may not be retroactive or apply specifically to my type manuscript, I would prefer to be on the safe side by advising the Secretary.
- 4. Please have drafted for me an appropriate letter when the new guidance or instruction is at hand.

LAURENCE S. KUTER Lieutenant General, USAF

Commander

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Address Official Communications to
COMMANDING GENERAL
ARE UNIVERSITY
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALA.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS
AIR UNIVERSITY
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE
ALABAMA

In reply refer to

16 July 1953

MEMO TO:

SUBJECT: Editorial Allegation of Waste and Inefficiency at Maxwell

- 1. Upon reading the sweeping allegations of mismanagement and extravagance on the editorial page of The Montgomery Advertiser of 15 July, I am sure that each of the great number of military managers at Maxwell joined me in a strong and immediate urge to address the editor with vigor and conviction, if for no other reason than to maintain the prestige of our command in this community.
- 2. Additionally I felt the normal obligation of a commander to rise to the defense of each member of the organization when he is attacked publicly and particularly when the attack is false.
- 3. I prepared what I believe to be a dignified but strong response to this editorial, a copy of which is inclosed herewith. This letter has not been signed or transmitted. This memorandum is to inform you of my reason for not transmitting this letter.
- 4. I can find no reason to believe that the facts and the logic in my reply would change the attitude of the editor. If he were interested in the facts of the case he would have obtained them at the outset. I can find no reason to believe that an honest and straightforward response would do our command any good in this paper. On the other hand, I believe that any reply to this editorial will be used as an invitation to this editor for further adverse expression and unfounded allegation. He would have the last word. I have decided, therefore, that it would be unwise to dignify this editorial by any attention whatsoever. My decision coincides with advice volunteered to me by a most authoritative leader of the civilian community.
- 5. Please inform your responsible subordinates of my position on this matter so that each may be assured that my decision not to appear in print on this matter comes from a conclusion arrived at

reluctantly and after serious thought and is contrary to my personal desire to set the record straight. The good judgment, able management, and cost-conscious approach of our military managers has my full confidence and warm appreciation.

> LAURENCE S. KUTER Lieutenant General, USAF Commander

1 Incl - Cy ltr to Editor, The Montg. Adv.

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Address Official Communications to COMMANDING GENERAL AIR UNIVERSITY MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALA.



In reply refer to

# UNITED STATES AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS AIR UNIVERSITY MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE ALABAMA

16 July 1953

The Editor
The Montgomery Advertiser
Montgomery, Alabama

Dear Sir:

In view of the close understanding that has existed between those of us in uniform at Maxwell and our civilian friends in Montgomery, the broad implication in your editorial on July 15 that there is substantial "waste of money at \* \* Maxwell Air Force Base" is disappointing and surprising.

The flat assertion that "anybody who has ever driven through / Maxwell / or had any contact with it knows that a lot of tax money is thrown away" obviously cannot go unanswered when published as a statement of fact by the Editor of the largest paper in the city, even though so sweeping an allegation is not susceptible of reply in detail.

The members of the Air University in this community will pay well over three millions of dollars! Federal income tax on March 15. The money spent at Maxwell is not wholly somebody else's money. Our interest in economy and good management is therefore motivated by personal interest in the funds as well as official responsibility.

Your editorial cites as specific examples of throwing away our money a practice of dispatching aircraft to take "this colonel and that Ph.D. to faraway places such as Tokyo and Paris." A simple telephone inquiry would have established the contrary fact that no airplane has been dispatched from Maxwell to carry anyone across either the Pacific or the Atlantic for a long time.

On the other hand, I am proud of the fact that we have sent one colonel and three Ph.D.s to Tokyo in the last twelve months. Tokyo is, of course, the terminal for Korea. Every one of these colonels and Ph.D.s have visited our combat units in Korea and every one of these men are instructing Air Force leaders of the near future on increasing the effectiveness of fighting in the air in Korea, other Koreas, or bigger Koreas.

Within the past twelve months, 1 major general, 7 colonels, and 4 Ph.D.s have been sent across the Atlantic, to Paris for first-hand contact with the Air Planners of NATO and the NATO Staff College, to England to check on the RAF's doctrines and teachings at their Staff College, and some other points of importance to the U.S. Air Force.

All of these people have moved in space made available in the military personnel and cargo carrying transports of the Military Air Transport Service.

As a result of these official trips, we are giving first-hand information and first-class instruction to the squadron and wing commanders and to the Air Planners of the next few years. Less than first-class training and performance would, of course, be disastrous, with limited numbers of aircraft and lives to expend if our country calls.

Just sixty days ago I was given the opportunity to discuss the general attitude of the military managers at Maxwell before about 250 of the civic and business leaders of this community. At that time, I stated publicly:

"I would not suggest or condone immunizing the military services against criticism. Justified criticism of military public servants is an essential and healthy component of the democratic American way of life. However, when unjustified and unfair allegations of waste and mismanagement are played up day after day, confidence in American military leadership is undermined, the appeal of military service is eroded, and the stature of a career as a public servant in uniform is destroyed. While the morale and fighting spirit of our armed forces has not yet yielded to this threat, danger signs have appeared. Within the past few months, for the first time in the history of American military aviation, regular commissions as 2d lieutenants in the United States Air Force have gone begging. Properly qualified young college men are turning down a career as a public servant in uniform.

"I can assure you without equivocation that there never has been more conscientious attention given to efficiency and economy in the military establishment than today. In the Air Force, for example, the service which I know best, we are achieving a goal of a 50 percent increase in our product—air power—with an increase of less than 17 per cent in our personnel. That is an achievement of which any successful big business manager would be proud if he could equal it.

"Sincere cost-consciousness is being emphasized right here in Montgomery where the Air University has reduced its payroll by more than 300 permanent job spaces during the current fiscal year. This is only one of many economies effected without a reduction of work load or productive output. The Air University intends to continue this trend."

I want to repeat my genuine appreciation of justified criticism of me or any other military public servant at Maxwell. You should understand my equally genuine objection to unfair, unsupported and sweeping allegations of waste and mismanagement on the part of the military leaders at Maxwell.

You and all members of your staff will be welcome in my office at any time. Where you can point out means or methods of improving our service to our country we will be most grateful and will take prompt action.

Not SigNED

LAURENCE S. KUTER

Lieutenant General, USAF

Commander

Address Official Communications to Commanding General
Air University
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALA.



In reply refer to

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS AIR UNIVERSITY MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE ALABAMA

22 July 1953

MEMO TO: Commandants -- AWC, AC&SS, AFROTC, ECI, Gunter Br, SAM; Director, RSI; Commander, 3800th AU Wing; and Dir/Adm, AU

SUBJECT: Editorial Allegation of Waste and Inefficiency at Maxwell

The principal authority of The Montgomery Advertiser has telephoned me today concerning the recent adverse editorial. He had seen the reply which I drafted and understood my reasons for deciding not to respond to the editorial publicly. (These reasons were explained to you in my memo of 16 July.) He spoke well of my letter, and, to clarify the matter, asked permission to publish all of it.

I responded to his friendly attitude and good will by saying that they were the important thing and that, in view of the decision I had announced to my command, I felt it would be better to drop the matter and particularly to avoid encouraging public letters on subjects of controversy or discord between the military and civilian elements of our joint community in Montgomery. Additionally, I do not wish to resurrect and bring unnecessary further public attention to the allegations in that editorial.

I expressed my intention to invite the publishers and editors of the Montgomery newspapers to be my guests at an early date, for a get-acquainted luncheon and visit to Maxwell and Gunter activities; and the idea was accepted. I am confident that the result will be to further pleasant relations through closer association and understanding.

LAURENCE S. KUTER

Lieutenant General, USAF

Commander

"Great progress has been made in the development of Air Force doctrine and the training of tomorrow's Air Force leaders. I am proud to have been associated with this progress, and I will always stay in touch with the Air University. The Air Force of the future is taking shape now at AU. Goodby, good luck, and thank you.

Many of us will fly together again."

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CONGRATULATIONS ON NOMINATION. APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

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COMDRAIR UNIV. MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

PRORTY

INFORMATION

PERSONAL FOR LT GEN KUTER FROM ODONNELL.

CITE 52490. THE SECRETARY OF THE AF DIRECTS ME TO INFORM YOU THAT THE PRESIDENT, ON THIS DATE, HAS NOMINATED YOU TO THE SENATE FOR APPOINTMENT AS COMDR, FEAF, WITH THE RANK OF GENERAL IN THE USAF. MAY I ADD MY CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE OF THE SECRETARY AND THE CHIEF OF STAFF.

1410, 25 APR 55

Wownpreded to unclassified by order of the Commander. Fadson & Salend gol.

> LADSON G ESKRIDGE, JR Colonel,

Chief of Staff

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CRYPTO CENTER NO.

CRYPTOGRAPHER'S INITIALS

319

LD/WH

AUIS

11 MAY 1955

SUBJECT: Request for Information

TO:

Commander

Far East Air Forces APO 925, San Francisco, Calif.

Reference your message 29637, additional photographs of Lt. Gen. Laurence S. Kuter are forwarded.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Incls: Photos HOMER N. LAMON Capt. USAF. Ass't Adjutant

Come bail -015

### JOINT MESSAGEFORM

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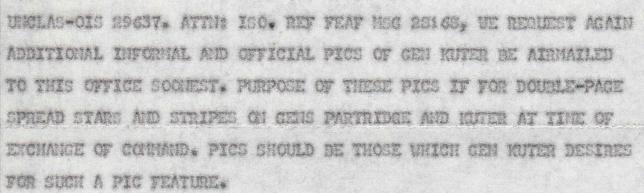
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27 APR 1955

SUBJECT: Request for Information

TO:

Commander

Far East Air Forces APO 925, San Francisco, Calif.

Reference your message 01828168, forwarded are photographs and biographies of Lt. Gen. Laurence S. Kuter.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Incls: Photos Bios HOMER N. LAMON Capt. USAF Ass't Adjutant PRIORAY

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UNICLASS-OIS28168. ATTN: ISO. REQUEST COMPLETE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND COPIES OF ALL AVAILABLE PICS ON GEN MUTER BEMAILED TO THIS OFFICE SOCNEST.

8 977

127 APR 1955

HQ. AIR UNIVERSITY

Alabama

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ICO PRINTED IN U.S.A.

I leave Maxwell Air Force Base and Montgomery with mixed feelings. I am eager to go to my new assignment in Tokyo and accept the responsibilities it entails. At the same time, I depart from my many friends here with deepest regret.

Mrs. Kuter and I have for many years thought of Montgomer

Mrs. Kuter and I have for many years thought of Montgomery as home, and we intend to return here at our earliest opportunity. Meanwhile, our latchstring will always be out for our Montgomery friends in Tokyo.

We at the Air University at both Maxwell and Gunter have always enjoyed the finest relations with the good people of Montgomery - both city and county. Our friends here have made my job much easier, and I'm sure that my successor will enjoy the same warm and helpful relationship that has always prevailed.

I will not say "goodbye." I'd rather say "we'll be seeing you." Thanks for a wonderful tour of duty in Montgomery.

24 May 1955 General Laurence S. Kuter Commander, Far East Air Forces APO 925, San Francisco, California Dear General Kuter: By the time you receive this my "congratulations" will be all legal. You have my best and sincere wishes for a most enjoyable and productive tour in the Far East. Inclosed are a few photos you may wish to keep as mementoes of the sad sweet parting. Also, there is a letter from Butler University which is self explanatory. I relayed your druthers on ISO's to Washington. If Brown, Bromiley or Carlisle are not available, they will wait on word from you after you have had a chance to examine FEAF prospects. They are aware that you could use Joe Lynch in a subordinate role. Our good Montgomery friends are still mourning your departure. If there is ever any liaison official or otherwise - you would like to have performed here, please consider me as your personal ambassador to the Cradle of the Confederacy. Best wishes again, sir, and thanks for a short but fine relationship. Sincerely, LAURENCE H. MACAULEY Colonel, USAF Chief, Information Services

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FROM NAME OR TITLE  ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	LAURENCE H. M. Colonel, USAF Office of Information	ACAULEY 2	8 May

BUTLER UNIVERSITY Indianapolis 7, Indiana Office of the President May 16, 1955 Colonel Laurence H. Macauley, USAF Chief, Information Services Air University Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama Dear Colonel Macauley: Thank you for your letter of May 13. We regret very much indeed that the assignment of General Kuter to Tokyo to take command of the Far East Air Forces will prevent him from coming to the Butler University campus at the time of our Centennial Commencement Program on June 13 to receive an honorary degree. We understand readily, however, why his new assignment will prevent him from being with us. It is the policy of the institution to confer honorary degrees only upon those who can be present to receive them. I would apprecidate it if you would extend to General Kuter our regrets that we will not have the opportunity of having him visit us and my congratulations and best wishes on his new assignment. Very sincerely yours, /s/ M. O. ROSS President MOR: bm copy

v 1 d - n the 22 March 1955 Mr. Charles A. Pearce Duell, Sloan & Pearce, Inc. 124 East Thirtieth Street New York 16, New York Dear Mr. Pearce: Your kind invitation to attend the April 7 meeting of the Publishers Lunch Club is accepted with appreciation. It is gratifying that this group of important publishers have some interest in the Air University. As you suggest, I will be prepared to discuss the Air University system and some of its projects in a 15-20 minute talk. I look forward to seeing you at the luncheon meeting. Sincerely, LAURENCE S. KUTER Lieutenant General, USAF Commander

DUELL, SLOAN & PEARCE 124 EAST THIRTIETH STREET NEW YORK 16, N.Y. PUBLISHERS. C. HALLIWEIL DUELL Murray Hill 5-2510 CHARLES A. PEARCE Cable: Swordwords March 18, 1955 Dear General Kuter: Many thanks for your telegram. Despite the news that a book-club announcement may be premature, Mr. Duell hopes that you can plan to attend the April 7 meeting of the Publishers Lunch Club. He has found that there is intense interest in the Air University itself, and in its educational programs in relation to the book world, so that -- even had you been able to announce the Air Force Reading Club at this informal gathering -- he had intended to ask you to give a major amount of the 15 or 20 minutes of informal offthe-record talk to the subject of the Air University. Thus, as he sees it, the Book Club could, or could not, be mentioned briefly as one of the developments in which the Air University has a serious and creative interest. Apparently New York publishers want to know and need to know a lot more about the Air University. Pending confirmation from you by Monday March 28th, the Club will be expecting you as their guest at the Yale Club, April 7th, 12:45 p.m. I hope this slightly revised arrangement will prove acceptable to you. Yours sincerely, /s/ Charles A. Pearce General Laurence S. Kuter United States Air Force Headquarters Air University Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama CAP: dd Colonel Macauley I am inclined to accept. Advice? Please draft response. If advice affirmative, then go ahead with 15-20 minute talk (AU briefing -Pegasus article - AF Reading Club, at least as plan). /s/ Kuter сору

14 November 1955

Mr. Clayton J. Worthington General Game Chairman 8th Annual Children's Dental Clinic Championship Football Game Redmont Hotel Birmingham, Alabama

Dear Mr. Worthington:

. .

Your letter of October 6 addressed to General Kuter has just reached this headquarters after being forwarded to Japan where General Kuter is now stationed as Commander, Far East Air Forces. We regret the delay in reply.

As we have already communicated to Congressman Huddleston, we would like very much to comply with the many requests for participation of our band. However, current Air Force regulations preclude its appearance at athletic contests unless one or more Armed Forces teams are participants. Also, we are restricted from furnishing bands for fund drives of a local nature.

We hope you have a highly successful program.

Sincerely,



LAURENCE H. MACAULEY Colonel, USAF Chief, Information Services

## ANNUAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL CLINIC MPIONSHIP FOOTBALL GAME

NOVEMBER 17, 1955, 7:30 P. M.-LEGION FIELD

### BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

October 6, 1955

HEADQUARTERS REDMONT HOTEL

Telephone 54-2892

GAME COMMITTEE

GENERAL CHAIRMAN

J. CLEWIS TRUCKS CO-CHAIRMAN DR. FRED SIMMONS

C. W. PHILLIPS JUDGE TALBOT ELLIS A. E. DRIGGERS H. F. GILMORE DR. PAUL R. HUFFSTUTLER DR. W. ROSS WILLIAMS

DR. ARMAN L. TOWNSEND

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DR. GEO. A. DENISON JUDGE GROVER BONER E. E. NASH DR. POLLY AYERS EDWARD E. CRAIG COL. H. P. LIPSCOMB, JR. W. A. KILLOUGH R. W. MUCKLEROY JOHN A. "BUCK" JENKINS MRS. MOYE GRIMES DR. JOSEPH F. VOLKER

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#### SPONSORING **ORGANIZATIONS**

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

JEFFERSON COUNTY COUNCIL VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

### PARTICIPATING HIGH SCHOOLS

CORNER FAIRFIELD HEWITT TRUSSVILLE HUEYTOWN JONES VALLEY LEEDS MCADORY MINOR MORTIMER JORDAN OAK GROVE SHADES VALLEY TARRANT WARRIOR WEST JEFFERSON

CLAYTON J. "DON" WORTHINGTON Lt. General Laurence S. Kuter Commanding General Air University, United States Army Air Force Maxwell Field Montgomery, Alabama

Dear General Kuter:

On behalf of the Sponsors of this Annual Football Classic, the Jefferson County Council of The Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Birmingham District Dental Society, I have been requested as General Came Chairman to ascertain if it would be possible to get the Army Air Force Band from Maxwell Field or either the Air Force Band from Craig Air Force Base to participate in our November 17th Football Program which is annually one of the most colorful events in the South. Fourteen Jefferson County High Schools as well as seventyfive elementary schools, representing more than forty-five thousand children, participate in this annual program.

Briefly, the two events that we would like the Air Force Band to participate in would be the huge Dental Clinic Football Parade which will pass through downtown Birmingham at 2:30 p.m., on Thursday, November 17th, and we would like for them to make an appearance at the Football Game that night, 7:30 p.m., to put on a twenty-minute show prior to the kick-off.

We have been honored in the past with many Military Notables, who have witnessed this event, namely: General Omar Bradley; Gen. J. Lawton Collins, Army Chief of Staff; Hon. Dan A. Kimbell, Sec. of Navy; Hon. Francis Mathews, Sec. of Navy; Lt. Gen. I. H. Edwards, U.S.A.F.; Maj. Gen. Roy H. Parker, Chief of Chaplins, U.S.A.; Rear Adm. William K. Phillips, U.S.N.; and many more, General Kuter, but I did want you to know that since 1947, we have been very close to the Military in connection with this program.

Your interest in and co-operation in connection with this event will be deeply appreciated not only by the sponsors, but by each member of our committee. We shall stand by for your decision.

General Game Chairman

Yours very sincerely,

ALABAMA'S MOST COLORFUL HIGH SCHOOL CLASSIC

Ltr fr Congressman Huddleston, 7 Oct 55, Subject: AF Band

PROT (7 Oct 55)

1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST AIR FORCES, APO 925, San Francisco, California
1100 22 OCT 55

To: Gommander, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Alabama

1. Forwarded as a matter pertaining to your Command.

2. A copy of interim reply to Congressman Huddleston is attached hereto.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl
Cy 1tr to Congressman
Huddleston

AUOIS

2nd Ind

Headquarters Air University, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

7 NOV 1955

TO: Director of Legislation & Liaison, Headquarters USAF, Washington 25, D. C.

In accordance with Section III, AFR 11-7, dated 19 Dec. 1951, forwarded for your information are copies of correspondence pertaining to a request for the use of an Air Force band made by the Honorable George Huddleston, Jr., Congressman, and our reply.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

2 Incls (1 added) cy ltrs to Congressman Huddleston

R. J. PACHL Major, USAF Asst. Adjutant

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS AIR UNIVERSITY MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE ALABAMA 7 Nevember 1955 Honorable George Huddleston, Jr., M.C. 284 Federal Building Birmingham, Alabama Dear Mr. Huddleston: Your letter of October 7th concerning the 8th Annual Children's Dental Clinic Football Game has been forwarded to me from Japan by General Kuter. The delay in reply occasioned by your letter being sent to Japan is regretted. While we would like very much to comply with many requests for the participation of our band, Air Force regulations preclude its appearance at athletic contests unless one or more Armed Forces teams are participating. Also, we are restricted from furnishing bands for fund drives of a local nature. We have no record that Mr. Worthington has made a similar request, nor did General Kuter indicate that he had received such a letter. We wish you and the citizens of Birmingham and Jefferson County every success in your worthwhile program. Sincerely, D. C. STROTHER Major General, USAF Acting Commander

22 October 1955 Dear Mr. Huddleston, Your letter of October 7, 1955, addressed to me as the Commander, Air University at Maxwell Field, has just reached me here in Japan. Since I left the Air University last May to assume command of the Far East Air Forces, I am taking the liberty of forwarding your letter to the present commander of the Air University, Major General Dean C. Strother. I am sure that he will communicate with you on this matter. With best wishes. Sincerely, LAURENCE S. KUTER General, United States Air Force Commander Honorable George Huddleston, Jr., M.C. 284 Federal Building Birmingham, Alabama copy

Congress of the United States HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D. C. 284 Federal Building Birmingham, Ala. October 7, 1955 Lt. General Laurence S. Kuter Commanding General Air University, United States Army Air Force Maxwell Field Montgomery, Alabama Dear General Kuter: Mr. Clayton J. Worthington, General Game Chairman of the 8th Annual Children's Dental Clinic Championship Football Game, has contacted me regarding the Committee's desire to have an Air Force Band participate in the football program on Thursday, November 17. I am advised that he has written you regarding this matter. This game is one of the outstanding events sponsored by the social forces in Birmingham each year. It is jointly sponsored by the Jefferson County Board of Health, the Jefferson County Board of Education, the Bureau of Dental Health, together with other organizations and many prominent citizens interested in the dental health of the community. I will personally appreciate your making it possible for either the Air Force Band from Maxwell Field or the Band from Craig Air Force Base to participate on this occasion. With best wishes, I remain Yours very truly, /s/ George Huddleston, Jr., M.C. GHjr:pc сору

Honorable George Huddleston, Jr. M.C. 284 Federal Building Birmingham, Alabama

Dear Mr. Huddleston:

Your letter of October 7 concerning the 8th Annual Children's Dental Clinic Football Game has been forwarded to me from Japan by General Kuter. The delay in reply occasioned by your letter being sent to Japan is regretted.

While we would like very much to comply with many requests for the participation of our band, Air Force regulations preclude its appearance at athletic contests unless one or more Armed Forces teams are participaning. Also, we are restricted from furnishing bands for fund drives of a local nature.

We have no record that Mr. Worthington has made a similar request, nor did General Kuter indicate that he had received such a letter.

We wish you and the citizens of Birmingham and Jefferson County every success in your worthwhile program.

Sincerely,

D. C. STROTHER Major General, USAF Acting Commander

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6 May 1955 Mr. Robert S. Goodale General Chairman, Veishea Iowa State College Ames, Iowa Dear Mr. Goodale: Your letter of April 30 has been referred to me for reply in the absence of General Kuter. I regret that General Kuter will be unable to participate in your Veisheathon Ceremonies May 12. As you no doubt have learned, General Kuter is on orders to take command of the Far East Air Forces and his schedule will not permit his appearance in Ames. This confirms the telephone conversation between General Kuter's aide, Major Mann, and Dr. Hilton. The program you outlined was most interesting. I am certain General Kuter would have liked to attend your celebration if it had been possible. Best wishes for a successful program, and thank you for honoring General Kuter with your invitation. Sincerely, LAURENCE H. MACAULEY Colonel, USAF Chief, Information Services

OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES San Francisco, California 11 June 1955 Colonel Laurence H. Macauley Chief, Information Services Air University Monatell Air Force Base Alabama Dear Colonel Macauley: Your letter of 6 June arrived the day after I had an opportunity for my first talk with General Muter. I went in for a ten-minute appointment and we talked for a little over an hour about information matters. Thanks very much for taking the time to write us promptly. I am sure, after knowing General Kuter for only one week, that your observations are 100 per cent accurate in every case. Sincerely. W. S. HVANS Colonel, USAF Chief, Office of Information Services ong ziled in Cal Mis germal zile.

6 June 1955

Colonel W. S. Evans Chief, Information Services Headquarters, Far East Air Forces APO 925, San Francisco, California

Dear Colonel Evans:

Thanks for your letter of 1 June. I didn't think we could do much for Captain Davis, but I had to give it the old try.

About working with General Kuter. You will find in him what most of us hope for in a boss when it comes to OIS matters. He appreciates the value of PR and I found him cooperative at all times. His door is open to the ISO and he is not adverse to asking opinions or suggestions. An open mind in other words.

In preparing talks or statements, he prefers the warm, friendly, informal tone. He is easy to get along with and is extremely friendly with both military and civilian citizens. The local Montgomery populace shed copious tears when he left.

General Kuter is an adept writer and speaker in his own right. He is familiar with the press and is extremely popular with the fourth estate. In fact the Tuesday Musical Club had a special party for him in Washington before he left.

His job over there will be a great deal different than it was here. However, I believe you will find his attitude toward PR will change little. I think you'll enjoy the time you spend with him.

I am not given to hero worship, but I will make it clear that he is the best senior general I have ever worked for as an ISO. He doesn't mind hamming things up a bit if it suits the occasion, but he demands dignity, poise and good taste at all times.

Letter to Colonel Evans, page 2 I hope these few observations will be of some help. Let me know if I can be of further assistance. Sincerely, LAURENCE H. MACAULEY Colonel, USAF Chief, Information Services



## HEADQUARTERS FAR EAST AIR FORCES APO 925

Office of Information Services San Francisco, California

1 June 1955

Colonel Laurence H. Macauley Chief, Information Services Headquarters, Air University Maxwell Air Force Base Alabama

Dear Colonel Macauley:

Thanks for your letter on Captain Davis. The present D/O policy requires that all stateside assignments remain firm, so Davis will go to Okinawa. However, we do appreciate the information you supplied us, and will keep an eye on him, since we are short trained OIS people here in FEAF.

General Kuter will arrive FEAF tomorrow. A series of briefings are planned over the next week, so I will not have an opportunity to talk with him personally on OIS matters for some ten days. In the interim, I would greatly appreciate it if you would forward to me all hints, suggestions, and recommendations you might have in working with General Kuter on OIS matters.

Sincerely,

W. S. EVANS Colonel, USAF Chief, Office of Information Services

13 May 1955 Mr. L. Gray Burdin Chairman Public Occasions Committee Butler University Indianapolis 7, Indiana Dear Mr. Burdin: General Kuter has asked me to reply to your kind letter of May 7. As you no doubt have heard by now, General Kuter has been reassigned to Tokyo to take command of the Far East Air Forces. General Kuter regrets that he will not have the honor to be present to receive an honorary degree at your centennial commencement on June 13. He must be in Tokyo on June 1. In the event you wish to confer the degree in absentia, General Kuter may be addressed: General Laurence S. Kuter Hq., Far East Air Forces APO 925, San Francisco, Calif. Thank you for your many kindnesses. Sincerely, LAURENCE H. MACAULEY Colonel, USAF Chief, Information Services

13 May 1955 Mr. L. Gray Burdin Chairman Public Occasions Committee Butler University Indianapolis 7, Inciana Dear Mr. Burdin: General Kuter has asked me to reply to your kind letter of May 7. As you no doubt have heard by now, General Kuter has been re-assigned to Tokyo to take command of the Far East Air Forces. General Kuter regrets that he will not have the honor to be present to receive an honorary degree at your centennial commencement on June 13. He must be in Tokyo on June 1. In the event you wish to confer the degree in absentia, General Kuter may be addressed: General Laurence S. Kuter Hq., Far East Air Forces APO 925, San Francisco, Calif. Thank you for your many kindnesses. Sincerely, LAURENCE H. MACAULEY Colonel, USAF Chief, Information Services



## BUTLER UNIVERSITY

INDIANAPOLIS 7. INDIANA

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF MEN

May 7, 1955

Lieutenant General Laurence S. Kuter, USAF Commander Air University Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

Dear General Kuter:

We are indeed pleased to learn that you have been selected to receive an honorary degree from Butler University at the time of our Centennial Commencement on Monday, June 13.

My purpose in writing you is to arrange for certain matters attendant to your participation in the program. Since academic regalia will be worn, we will be glad to arrange for appropriate attire for you for this occasion if you will be so kind as to send us at your earliest convenience your height and cap size.

Doubtlessly, you will wish to reserve hotel accommodations for the night of Sunday, June 12. If you wish us to attend to this matter, we will be happy to do so. We recommend the Marott Hotel for its convenience and commodiousness.

It would be appreciated if you will plan to be at the Butler University Fieldhouse on June 13 no later than 3:40 p.m. daylight saving time. Please come to the Women's Athletic Office, located at the west end of the Fieldhouse. You will find it most convenient to enter the building by Gate 3.

If, in the meantime, there is anything here that you wish us to do that will make your visit to Butler University more pleasant, please feel free in calling upon us.

Sincerely,

L. Gray Burdin, Chairman PUBLIC OCCASIONS COMMITTEE

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Cel Macauley to heply directly - still a chance of an

PACIFIC AIR FORCES UNITED STATES AIR FORCE APO 953, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES GENERAL LAURENCE SHERMAN KUTER Laurence S. Kuter was born in Rockford, Illinois on May 28, 1905 and graduated from the United States Military Academy on June 14. 1927. General Kuter was first assigned to the Field Artillery. He graduated from Flying Schools at Brooks and Kelly Fields, Texas, in June 1930 and was assigned to Langley Field, Virginia as operations officer of the 49th Bombardment Squadron. A month later, General Kuter was transferred to the Air Corps. He became Operations Officer, 2nd Bombardment Wing and Assistant Base Operations Officer at Langley Field in August 1933. From February to June 1934, General Kuter served as Operations Alabama, was graduated in the Spring of 1935 and remained as an at that school. In July 1939, he began a tour of duty in the Operations and

Officer of the Eastern Zone Army Air Corps Mail Operations. He was then enrolled in the Air Corps Tactical School at Maxwell Field, instructor in Bombardment Aviation and in The Employment of Air Force

Training Division of the War Department General Staff, Washington, D.C. In this assignment General Kuter was a principal factor in the several augmentations of the Air Corps and an author of the basic plan for the employment of air power in World War II. In November 1941 he was designated as Assistant Secretary, War Department General Staff. After participating in the reorganization of the War Department, he was transferred to Headquarters, Army Air Forces, and was designated the Deputy Chief of Air Staff in March 1942.

He was assigned to overseas duty in October 1942, and was in command of the 1st Bombardment Wing (later designated 1st Bombardment Division) in England at the end of 1942. At the beginning of 1943, he was called to North Africa, and in April 1943 became the American Deputy Commander, Northwestern African Tactical Air Force, where he remained until the victory in Tunisia.

In May 1943, General Kuter returned to Headquarters, Army Air Forces and was designated Assistant Chief of Air Staff for plans where he was General H. H. Arnold's staff assistant in the field of air war plans and combat operations. From August 1943, to February 1945, General Kuter participated in the series of Combined Chiefs

KUTER, Laurence S. - Cont'd

of Staff Conferences at Quebec, Cairo and London, and was General Arnold's personal representative at the conferences at Malta and Yalta.

In May 1945 he went to the Marianas in the Pacific to become Deputy Commander of Army Air Forces, Pacific Ocean Area, and to help organize the United States Army Strategic Air Forces in the Pacific.

In September 1946, by Presidential Order, he was appointed United States representative to the Interim Council of the Provisional International Aviation Organization which had its headquarters at Montreal. On September 22, 1947, he was reappointed by Presidential Order as the United States Representative to the then permanent International Civil Aviation Organization, with the personal rank of Minister. During this period General Kuter participated in major civil aviation conferences in London, Cairo, Lima and Rio de Janeiro.

Named Commander Designate of the proposed Military Air Transport Service in March 1948, General Kuter was primarily responsible for its charter and organization and then assumed command of MATS upon its activation four months later.

He was designated Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel Air Force Headquarters on October 29, 1951. General Kuter assumed command of the Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, in April 1953. In May 1955, General Kuter was appointed commander of the Far East Air Forces, with headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. He officially assumed command on June 4, 1955. On 1 July 1957, the Far East Air Forces (FEAF) changed its name to the Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) and moved its headquarters to Hickam Air Force Base, Honolulu, T. H. At the same time, General Kuter's title was changed from Commander, FEAF to Commander in Chief, Pacific Air Forces.

General Kuter is the son of Maynard Washburn and Minna Kuter of Milwaukee, Wis. He is married to the former Ethel Lyddon of Rockford, Ill., and they have one daughter, Roxanne Kuter Williamson, presently residing with husband Robert B. Williamson and three children in Dallas, Texas.

In his limited spare time, General Kuter likes to hunt, fish and play golf.

General Kuter is a rated command pilot, combat observer, technical observer and aircraft observer. He has flown more than 8,000 hours, including more than 3,200 hours as a command pilot. He has flown around the world seven times visiting Air Force installations.

KUTER, Laurence S. - Cont'd His decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, American Campaign Medal, French Legion of Honor (Chevalier), British Empire Legion (Commander), Order of Christ of Portugal (Knight Grand Officer), French Croix de Guerre with Palm, China's Cloud and Banner with Grande Cordon, the Military Merit Taequk with Gold Star from the Republic of Korea, Order of Rising Sun (Japan) and the Legion of Honor (Philippines). PROMOTIONS He was promoted to first lieutenant (permanent) January 25, 1933; to captain (permanent) June 14, 1937; to major (temporary) December 30, 1940; to lieutenant colonel (temporary) January 5, 1942; to brigadier general (temporary) February 2, 1942; to major general (temporary) February 20, 1944; to brigadier general (permanent) April 11, 1948; to major general (permanent) January 27, 1950; to lieutenant general (temporary) April 11, 1951; to general (temporary) May 29, 1955. Current as of June 1958

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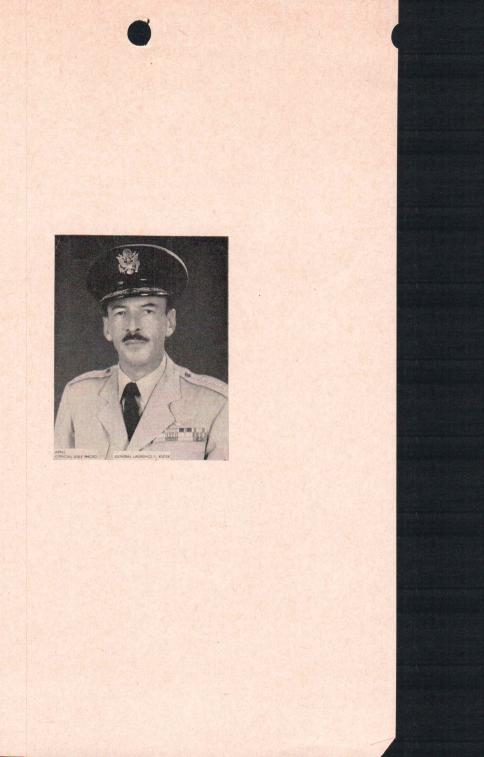
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Current as of June 1958



TERNAL INFORMATION DIVISION FFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES OFFICE, SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE 11 May 1956

Air Force News Service Release No. 593

## KNOW YOUR AIR FORCE LEADERS - GENERAL LAURENCE S. KUTER

The career of General Laurence S. Kuter, Commander of Far East Air Forces, exemplifies to a high degree the versatility demanded of American military leaders today. General Kuter's career has cast him in such diverse roles as aeronaut, educator, diplomat, planner, front line operator and major commander.

General Kuter's military service began in 1927, when he was graduated from the United States Military Academy; his flying service dates to 1929, at the Texas flying schools at Brooks and Kelly.

The outbreak of World War II found General Kuter in the Operations and Training Division of the War Department General Staff, after having spent four years at the Air Corps Tactical School as an instructor in employment of air power. He was one of the principal authors of the basic plan for the employment of air power in the war. When the Japanese struck at Pearl Harbor, he was Assistant Secretary of the War Department General Staff. He was one of the committee of three officers who conceived and managed the reorganization of the War Department which recognized the Air arm as a crucial factor in modern war and began the process of emancipation that culminated in the establishment of the United States Air Force as an independent, coequal branch of the defense establishment.

General Kuter was named Deputy Chief of Air Staff of the new Army Air Forces. Six months later, he received his first overseas assignment as Commander of the 1st Bombardment Wing (later, 1st Bombardment Division) in England. From England he went to Africa where he became American Deputy Commander, Northwestern African Tactical Air Force.

After the victory in Tunisia, General Kuter returned to Washington to work on air war plans and combat operations for General H. H. Arnold with the title of Assistant Chief of Staff for Plans. He participated in the important series of wartime Combined Chiefs of Staff Conferences at Quebec, Cairo, and London, and was General Arnold's personal representative at Malta and Yalta. His reminiscences of

Release No. 593 Page 2 the Yalta Conference, "Airman at Yalta," exemplify General Kuter's belief that Air Force men should write on Air Force subjects. General Kuter's next assignment took him to the Far East, where he helped organize the United States Army Strategic Air Forces in the Pacific as Deputy Commander of the AAF, Pacific Ocean Area. In September, 1946, by Presidential Order, he was appointed United States Representative to the Interim Council of the Provisional International Aviation Organization which had its headquarters at Montreal. On September 22, 1947, he was reappointed by Presidential Order as the United States Representative to the Council of the then permanent International Civil Aviation Organization, with the personal rank of Minister. During this period General Kuter participated in major civil aviation conferences in London, Cairo, Lima, and Rio de Janeiro. Named Commander designate of the proposed Military Air Transport Service in March, 1948, General Kuter was primarily responsible for its charter and organization and then assumed command of MATS upon its activation four months later. He was designated Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel at Air Force Headquarters on October 29, 1951. General Kuter assumed command of the Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama,, in April, 1953. In May, 1955, he was appointed commander of the Far East Air Forces, with headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. He officially assumed command on June 4,, 1955. General Kuter is married to the former Ethel Lyddon of Rockford, Illinois. They have a daughter, Roxanne Kuter Williamson, who lives in Dallas, Texas, with her husband Robert B. Williamson and their two children. In his limited spare time, General Kuter likes to hunt, fish and play golf. END \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***\*** A DECADE OF SECURITY THRU GLOBAL AIRPOWER \*\*<del>\*\*\*</del>